



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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District of Arizona*

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CENTRAL PHOENIX MAN SENTENCED TO 110 MONTHS IN PRISON

PHOENIX (Ariz.) – On May 15, 2006, Santos Garcia, 34, of Phoenix, Arizona, was sentenced here to 110 months by U.S. District Judge Earl C. Carroll. Garcia had pleaded guilty on February 14, 2006 to three charges of Possession with Intent to Distribute Methamphetamine. Garcia's sentence was enhanced by the presence of firearms during several drug transactions.

Garcia is one of several individuals prosecuted under Operation Suppressor. In this particular operation, undercover Phoenix Police Department Detectives and Special Agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Special Agents identified subjects allegedly engaged in illegal firearms and narcotics trafficking in Central Phoenix. Operation Suppressor is part of the District of Arizona's Project Safe Neighborhoods, an illegal firearms enforcement program.

The effectiveness of Project Safe Neighborhoods in Arizona is based on the ability of federal, state, and local agencies to cooperate in a unified offensive that is led by U.S. Attorney Paul K. Charlton. Through ongoing partnerships among federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, like the one in this case, the U.S. Attorney is implementing a series of strategies that are contoured to fit the specific gun crime problems throughout Arizona.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Phoenix Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution was handled by Michael Lee, Special Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-05-0992-PHX-EHC
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